

MARYLAND AGRI-FACTS



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The Sheep & Lambs and Cattle Inventory are the results of the Sheep and Cattle Surveys, respectively. We wish to thank the more than 500 farmers who responded to these surveys and help make these reports possible.

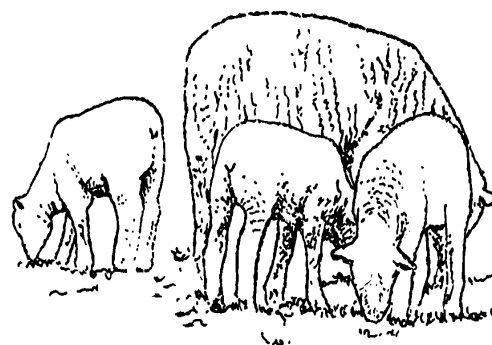
Maryland Agricultural Statistics Service

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SHEEP & LAMBS

All sheep and lamb inventory in the United States on January 1, 2003, totaled 6.35 million head, down 5 percent from 2002 and 9 percent below two years ago. The inventory has trended down since peaking at 56.2 million head in 1942. Breeding sheep inventory declined to 4.68 million head on January 1, 2003, down 5 percent from 4.91 million head on January 1, 2002. Ewes one year old and older, at 3.79 million head, were 5 percent below last year. Market sheep and lambs on January 1, 2003, totaled 1.67 million head, down 6 percent from January 1, 2002. Market lambs comprised 96 percent of the total. Twenty-six percent were lambs under 65 pounds, 17 percent were 65 - 84 pounds, 24 percent 85 - 105 pounds, 29 percent were over 105 pounds, and 4 percent were market sheep.



U.S. SHEEP & LAMBS BY CLASS, JANUARY 1, 2000-2003

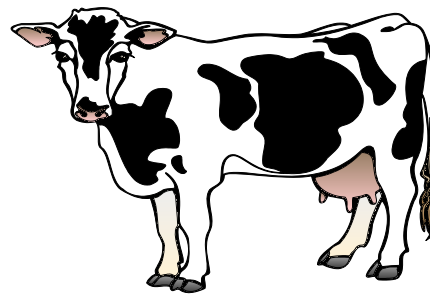
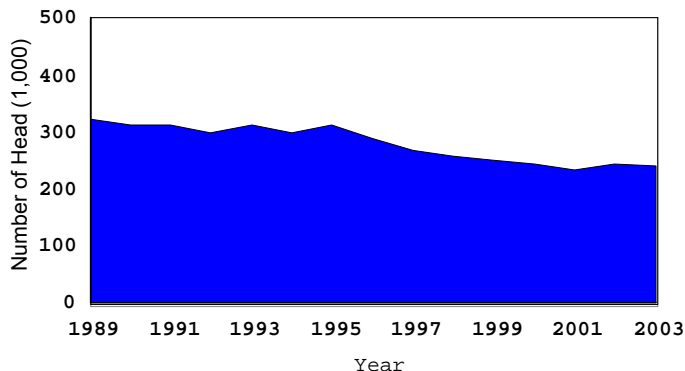
ITEM	2000	2001	2002	2003
	-----THOUSAND-----			
All Sheep & Lambs	7,032	6,965	6,685	6,350
Breeding	5,164	4,967	4,913	4,682
Ewes	4,229	4,091	3,980	3,789
Rams	205	201	200	192
Replacement Lambs	729.5	675.0	733.5	701.5
Market Sheep & Lambs	1,868.0	1,998.0	1,772.0	1668.0
under 65	452.2	470.6	435.9	429.3
65 to 84	331.2	359.4	299.9	285.7
85 to 105	480.2	487.3	415.6	398.5
over 105	541.9	604.2	549.0	481.7
Market Sheep	80.5	76.5	71.6	72.8
Lamb Crop	4,622.0	4,495.0	4,360.0	-----
#Farms with Sheep	66,100	65,120	64,170	-----

CATTLE INVENTORY

Maryland: The January 1, 2003 number of all cattle and calves on Maryland farms at 240,000 head was 2 percent below January 2002. The number of cows being milked declined 1,000 head while dairy replacement heifers also decreased 1,000 over last year. Beef cows stayed the same as last year at 41,000 head. Beef replacement heifers were 3,000 head below 2002. Number of calves on farms on January 1, 2003 was at 40,000, down 11 percent compared to 2002. The 2002 calf crop was 102,000 head, down 1,000 from the number of calves born in 2001.

United States: All cattle and calves in the United States on January 1, 2003 totaled 96.1 million head, 1 percent below the 96.7 million on January 1, 2002 and 1 percent below the 97.3 million two years ago. All cows and heifers that have calved, at 42.1 million, were down slightly from the 42.2 million on January 1, 2002 and down 1 percent from the 42.6 million two years ago. Beef cows at 32.95 million, were down 1 percent from both January 1, 2002 and January 1, 2001. Milk cows at 9.15 million, were up slightly from January 1, 2002 but down slightly from two years ago. Beef replacement heifers, 5.61 million, up 1 percent. Milk replacement heifers, 4.10 million, up 1 percent. Calves under 500 pounds were down 1 percent from January 1, 2002..

**Cattle and Calf Inventory
Maryland, 1989-2003**



Class	MARYLAND CATTLE AND CALVES ¹		UNITED STATES CATTLE AND CALVES ¹	
	Jan 1, 02	Jan 1, 03	Jan 1, 02 ²	Jan 1, 03
	-----Thousand-----			
Cattle and Calves (Total)	245	240	96,704	96,106
Cows and Heifers that have calved	122	121	42,229	42,099
Beef Cows	41	41	33,118	32,947
Milk cows	81	80	9,112	9,152
Heifers 500 Pounds and Over	51	56	19,678	16,200
For Beef Cow Replacement	14	11	5,561	5,608
For Milk Cow Replacement	33	32	4,060	4,104
Other Heifers	9	9	10,057	9,890
Steers 500 Pounds and Over	18	23	16,790	16,590
Bulls 500 Pounds and Over	4	4	2,244	2,253
Calves Under 500 Pounds	45	40	15,763	15,563
	2001	2002	2001²	2002
Calf Crop	102	102	38,280	38,193
Operations with Cattle (#)	4,500	4,400	1,049.9	1,032.6
Operations with Beef Cows (#)	2,800	2,700	813.6	805.0
Operations with Milk Cows (#)	950	900	97.5	91.9

¹ Totals may not add due to rounding.

² Revised

AGRICULTURAL PRICES

Prices received for the month of January were mixed. The wheat price decreased twenty-five cents to \$3.06 per bushel, while the barley price was up twenty-three cents to a price of \$1.94 per bushel. Soybeans moved up four cents per bushel from last month's price of \$5.71 and corn was up one cent to

\$2.82 per bushel. Calf prices went down to \$81.00 per cwt and beef cattle had a \$2.40 per cwt increase. Hog prices decreased to \$31.80 per cwt.

Commodity	Unit	Maryland and Delaware			United States			Parity
		JAN	DEC	JAN	JAN	DEC	JAN	
		2002	2002	2003	2002	2002	2003	
Dollars								
Wheat, Winter	BU	2.78	3.41	3.06	2.81	3.85	3.47	9.53
Corn	BU	2.21	2.81	2.82	1.97	2.32	2.27	6.51
Barley	BU	1.52	1.71	1.94	2.09	3.03	3.00	6.44
Soybeans	BU	4.21	5.71	5.75	4.22	5.46	5.38	14.20
All Hay, Baled	TON	137.00	176.00	157.00	91.70	92.60	92.90	----
Apples,Fresh	LB	----	----	----	0.221	0.263	0.258	0.480
All Beef Cattle	CWT	67.30	62.90	69.70	67.10	70.50	72.60	158.00
Calves	CWT	93.60	86.60	81.00	102.00	94.70	95.50	213.00
Hogs	CWT	36.60	33.00	31.80	37.70	30.30	31.80	101.00
Milk, Fluid MKT	CWT	16.80	13.60	N/A	13.40	11.90	11.90	33.00
Chickens ¹	LB	0.087	0.082	0.080	-----	---	-----	-----
Broilers	LB	0.332	0.565	0.355	0.370	0.290	0.350	-----
Turkeys, Live	LB	----	----	----	0.341	0.384	0.346	0.969
Eggs, Market	DOZ	0.542	0.581	0.583	0.450	0.519	0.529	1.56

¹ Mid-Month Forecast, Entire Month Price.

INDEX OF PRICES RECEIVED			
INDEX AND RATIOS	UNITED STATES 1990 - 92 =100		
	JAN 2002	DEC 2002*	JAN 2003
All Farm Products	95	98	99
All Crops	94	*104	102
Feed Grain & Hay	90	*106	103
Oil- Bearing Crops	76	98	96
Fruits & Nuts	85	95	84
All Livestock and Livestock Products	97	91	95
Meat Animals	90	88	92
Dairy Products	103	91	90
Poultry and Eggs	109	96	108
Ratio ¹	78	78	79
Prices Paid Index	122	126	126

* Revised

¹ Ratio of index of prices received by farmers to index of prices paid.

MARCH CALENDAR

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
3	4	5 Broiler Hatchery	6	7 Livestock Slaughter-Ann. Poultry Slaughter- Ann.
10	11	12 Broiler Hatchery	13	14 Crop Production
17 Milk Production	18	19Broiler Hatchery	20	21 Chickens and Eggs
24	25	26Broiler Hatchery	27	28 Agricultural Prices Hogs & Pigs
31Grain Stocks Prospective Planting				

Reports can be accessed on the Internet at <http://www.usda.gov/nass/>

QUARTERLY AGRICULTURAL SURVEY

Beginning February 28th, around 1,100 Maryland farmers will be contacted for our March Agricultural Survey. For this survey we are asking for acres operated, crops to be grown in 2003, and crops stored on your operation. The results of this survey will help give an early picture of what is planned, as well as an update on stocks of grain. Those

operators selected will receive a questionnaire in the mail and possibly a follow-up phone call or visit. Regardless of the size of the operation, every report is important to the accuracy of the results and their information is kept confidential.

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